

CITY OF CLARKSTON

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ITEM NO: G5

HEARING TYPE:  
Council Meeting

BUSINESS AGENDA / MINUTES

ACTION TYPE:  
Resolution

MEETING DATE: November 6, 2013

SUBJECT: Resolution to Establish a Domestic Partnership Registry and Certificate Program

DEPARTMENT: Administration

PUBLIC HEARING: ☐ YES ☒ NO

ATTACHMENT: ☒ YES ☐ NO  
Pages: 1

INFORMATION CONTACT: Mayor Ransom  
PHONE NUMBER: 404-296-6489

PURPOSE:

To consider and approve the attached Domestic Partnership Registry and Certificate Program Resolution

NEED/ IMPACT:

The proposed resolution grants the official recognition and registry of same-sex, as well as, opposite sex partnerships, of residents living within the City of Clarkston. Two months ago Avondale Estates became one of the first cities in DeKalb County to honor and respect these partnerships and one of a handful of cities within the state of Georgia to take such official action. In solidarity with this gesture, and in recognition of the broad diversity represented by the Clarkston community, we are proposing to adopt the same ordinance.

With respect to the City's authority to do so, the Mayor of Avondale described the change as the provision of "...new service for our residents and as a means of showing respect and recognition to the many couples we have living in our City that may want to receive a Domestic Partnership Certificate."

Residents would be able to request a Domestic Partnership Certificate at City Hall during normal business hours and be entered into a new Domestic Partnership Registry. Pursuant to the resolution, the couple will then be issued a "Certificate of Domestic Partnership" signed by the Mayor. This Certificate may make it easier for couples to show evidence to receive healthcare benefits, gain hospital visitation rights and access to other rights already afforded to married couples.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Mayor's recommendation is to adopt the attached Resolution to establish a Domestic Partnership Registry and Certificate Program. On November 6, 2013.